

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1-16. (canceled)

17. (previously presented): A method to decrease the allergenicity of a 2S albumin which method comprises modifying said 2S albumin by reducing disulfide bonds thereof and alkylating the resultants.

18. (previously presented): The method of claim 17 wherein the 2S albumin is Brazil nut 2S albumin.

19. (previously presented): The method of claim 17 wherein said reducing employs a reducing agent selected from the group consisting of 2-mercaptoethanol, dithiothreitol, dithioerythritol, and tributylphosphine, and combinations thereof.

20. (previously presented): The method of claim 17 wherein the alkylating employs an alkylating agent selected from the group consisting of N-ethylmaleimide, cystamine, iodoacetamide, and iodoacetic acid, and combinations thereof.

21. (currently amended): A method to desensitize a subject to an allergic reaction to 2S albumin which method comprises administering to said subject ~~[[the]] a 2S albumin prepared by the method of claim 17~~ which has been modified by reducing disulfide bonds thereof and alkylating the resultants.

22. (previously presented): The method of claim 21 wherein the 2S albumin is Brazil nut 2S albumin.